

CHAMPPS Advisory Committee

June 22, 2007

Attendees:

Barbara Cimaglio, Karen Horn, Janice Garfield, Liz Peterson, Jonathon Billings, Karen Garbarino, Sheri Lynn, Rebecca Ryan, Kristy Sprague, Sharon Mallory, Dawn Jorgensen, Craig Stevens, Kelly Dougherty, Penrose Jackson

Status Report

For the non-SPF (non-SAMHSA) awards, grants are in process and funds will be paid to grantees by July 1. Kelly Dougherty will be meeting with each grantee to review their work plan, identify technical assistance needs and review reporting requirements. Programmatic experts from the Department of Health will participate in visits with implementation project grantees.

SPF (substance abuse) grants have been held at the Department pending SAMHSA's approval of the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs' strategic plan, which has now been received. Grantees will participate in a Learning Community Model for each step of the SPF. The first session will be on needs assessment. Sessions will be offered only to SPF awardees to start.

Other related activities:

- Legislative summer study on prevention being organized by the Health Care Reform Commission – focus on chronic disease prevention and health care reform
- Revision to Agency of Human Services Primary Prevention Plan – Steering Committee has met once. Identified the following four themes: health, safety, economic stability, engagement/connectedness

Technical Assistance to Grantees

For implementation projects – content/program experts at VDH will provide technical assistance (e.g., Susan Coburn for nutrition/physical activity projects).

Capacity building grantees may require significant technical assistance; Kelly Dougherty will be lead contact.

Use common tool as starting place (e.g., MAPP, APEX/PH)?

Focus on building capacity to take action.

Process Evaluation – feedback from communities

Written comments from a VDH District Director and the Association of Regional Partnerships were distributed; and results from Zoomerang survey of those who attended the applicant training session, with supplemental questions for those who did apply.

Major themes:

- By far the most frequent comment was regarding the short turn-around time as a significant barrier to meeting the collaborative intent of CHAMPPS
- Mixed comments regarding effect on collaborative relationships in community – some reports of CHAMPPS actually increasing competition and damaging relationships between community organizations; others reporting that it raised awareness about other organizations in the community and provided a forum for meeting and sharing ideas

Outcome Evaluation

Evaluation for capacity building projects will be largely process
Outcome evaluation will be project/grant-specific

Common measures/benchmarks more easily identified for those projects with common focus (e.g., Winooski Community Center and Rutland Area Physical Activity Coalition both have physical activity goals).

Look at measures of fidelity to evidence-based practices/programs and extrapolate from that

How to measure comprehensiveness of project and impact on community connectedness? Will look into tools for this.

For SPF – there are clear cut expectations, activities, evaluation measures

Plan for FY 09

No new funds allocated for CHAMPPS in the last legislative session

Implementation projects designed to be three-year projects with funding scaled down in year 2 to 80% of year 1

If all implementation projects are re-funded at 80%, remaining funding will be \$56,342 for FY09, not enough for providing current capacity building applicants with continued funding for capacity building or for expanding to implementation mode

Legislative report due in January

We will need to include feedback from communities and challenges of lack of continued funding. Overall will need to get a sense of whether this is the direction the legislature truly wants to go, and if so, be clear that further infusion of resources is necessary.

Next meeting:

Friday, September 7, 11:00-1:00, Waterbury (exact room TBD)

